



Interoffice Memo Office of Design Policy & Support

DATE: 9/8/2021

FILE: P.I.# 0013895, 0013896 & 0013897
Gwinnett County / GDOT District 1 - Gainesville
S.R. 316 From East of Cedars Road to West of Sugarloaf Parkway, *constructing two grade-separated interchanges on SR 316 at the existing at-grade intersections of Hurricane Trail and US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway*

Ossie Brewer

FROM: *for* R. Christopher Rudd, PE, State Design Policy Engineer

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: APPROVED DETOUR REPORT

Attached is the approved Detour Report with Notice of Detour Approval for the above subject project.

Attachment

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Shannon Giles, Area Manager - D1, A1
Jonathan DiGioia, Project Manager
BOARD MEMBER - 7th Congressional District



Detour Report

DATE: May 25, 2021

FILE: P.I. # 0013895, 0013896 and 0013897
Gwinnett County/ GDOT District 1 *Jason W. Mobley* FOR:

FROM: Kimberly Nesbitt, State Program Delivery Administrator

TO: R. Christopher Rudd, P.E., State Design Policy Engineer
Attn: Dave Peters, P.E., State Conceptual Design Group Manager

SUBJECT: Request for Detour Approval

Description and Project Proposal: *The proposed project begins along SR 316 approximately 600 feet east of the Cedars Road intersection and ends at the ramp to Sugarloaf Parkway southbound. This project is 100 percent in Gwinnett County in Congressional District No. 7, and Georgia Militia District 407. The proposed project would construct two grade-separated interchanges on SR 316 at the existing at-grade intersections of Hurricane Trail and US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway. The at-grade intersection of Fence Road will be closed. A new bridge crossing over CSX Railroad and a roadway connection to US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway to SR 316 will be constructed to provide access to SR 316 via Fence Road. Additionally, two new bridges will be built to span eastbound and westbound SR 316 over CSX Railroad. The proposed mainline section would consist of two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction with a depressed grassed median, 14-foot wide outside shoulders (12-foot paved and 2-foot grass) and 12-foot wide inside shoulders (10-foot paved and 2-foot grass). The project is grouped together as PI Nos. 0013895, 0013896, and 0013897 so that the interchanges are connected together safely and construction work completed at one time over the three mile section. Construction will be to the outside of the existing SR 316 lanes and traffic shifted onto the new SR 316 lanes after completion of the interchanges. No additional lanes are being added to SR 316.*

PI Number 0013895

This section removes the traffic signal at the Hurricane Trail and SR 316. Hurricane Trail will be elevated over SR 316 on a new bridge with ramps to create an interchange. A loop ramp is proposed to limit impacts to adjacent businesses on Hurricane Trail and a new location two lane access road is provided to the Goodwin Ammonia business. The new interchange will bring more traffic onto Hurricane Trail and Hurricane Shoals Road, so roadway improvements are proposed along Hurricane Trail up to the intersection with Hurricane Shoals Road and turn lanes are proposed on Hurricane Shoals Road. A new traffic signal will be installed at the intersection of Hurricane Trail and Hurricane Shoals Road. The project ends on Hurricane Shoals Road after widening is completed for the turn lanes and at the Goodwin Ammonia business. The interchange ramps and new construction to the outside of SR 316 extends the start of the project to just east of Cedars Road and the project connects with the proposed interchange at US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway and SR 316, PI 0013897. The project length is approximately 1.4 miles.

PI Number 0013896

This section of the project closes access to SR 316 from Fence Road/Goodwin Ammonia Driveway and relocates Fence Road to connect with US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway with a signalized intersection and provides direct access to the SR 316 westbound entry and exit ramps. The new location Fence Road will be bridged over the CSX Railroad and walls will be used to avoid impacts to Pleasant Hill

Cemetery. A new driveway is proposed to provide access to Publix. The project connects back to existing Fence Road after the new location curvature is completed and the roadway widening is transitioned back to match existing. The project length is approximately 0.2 mile.

PI Number 0013897

This section removes the traffic signal at US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway and SR 316. US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway will be elevated over SR 316 on a new bridge with ramps to create an interchange. Loop ramps are proposed to avoid impacts to CSX Railroad and connect with the new location SR 316 built by project PI 0013895. The interchange ramps and new construction to the outside of SR 316 extends the end of the project to just west of Sugarloaf Parkway with a new bridge over the Colonial Pipelines. The westbound exit from SR 316 begins after the Colonial Pipeline to avoid impacts to the utility. The interchange brings more traffic onto US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway, so US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway is being widened to two lanes in each direction with turn lanes. The project limits on US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway are set based on the length needed to transition back to existing conditions. Direct access from Stanley Road to US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway is blocked by the new interchange, so Stanley is relocated on new location to connect with US 29/SR 8/Winder Highway. The project length is approximately 1.0 miles.

Concept Approval Date: January 13, 2020

Existing Traffic: Hurricane Trail: 8,250 (AADT) 4% Trucks
SR 316: 49,100 (AADT) 12% Trucks

Reason a Detour is required: This project will include one detour route with a projected duration of nine to twelve months. For this detour, Hurricane Trail at SR 316 will be closed to build the new bridges over the existing and new SR 316 lanes. SR 316 access will be maintained to Goodwin Ammonia during construction with temporary driveways. Local traffic will be detoured to Hurricane Shoals Road to access SR 316 west at Cedars Road and SR 316 east at Hi Hope Road during construction. The Goodwin Ammonia Company driveways to SR 316 will also be closed permanently. Those driveways will remain open during construction of the interchange. The estimated route distance and time is 3.5 miles and six minutes. Due to urban constraints, no other alternative detours were considered.

Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Detour Route: Letters were sent out showing the proposed detour to the Preconstruction Division Director, school superintendent, and EMS director for Gwinnett County. Gwinnett county Traffic Engineering Division Director responded in support of the offsite detour with moderate concerns. He stated further clarification was needed on the temporary signal timeline at Progress Center Avenue along with the discrepancy between the detour description and graphic arrows. He also suggested temporarily closing Circle Road to prevent drivers from developing their own detour route. Fire and Emergency Services responded with being in support of the project with low impact from the detour. They indicated delays should be expected when normal routes are not accessible and personnel responding to Publix Atlanta Warehouse and the industrial area in general would need to plan for closures. Gwinnett County Public Schools responded with no major concerns and are in support of the project utilizing the offsite detour.

Public Detour Meeting Results:

- A virtual open house was held from November 24, 2020 to January 8, 2021
- There were several questions regarding the project timeline and funding. Concerns and questions were raised about traffic projections and impacts to existing businesses and

neighborhoods. No comments or concerns were offered on the proposed detour routes.

- A total of 166 people formally commented.
- 110 people were in strong support of the project, 9 were opposed, 11 were strongly opposed, 10 were neutral, and 10 did not include a response.
- 11,942 people viewed the virtual open house.
- There were no major changes made as a result of the comments received.

Recommendations: Approval of this detour report is recommended and that the Notice be approved for advertising.

Concur:



GDOT Director of Engineering

9/02/2021

Date

Approve:

For _____
GDOT Chief Engineer

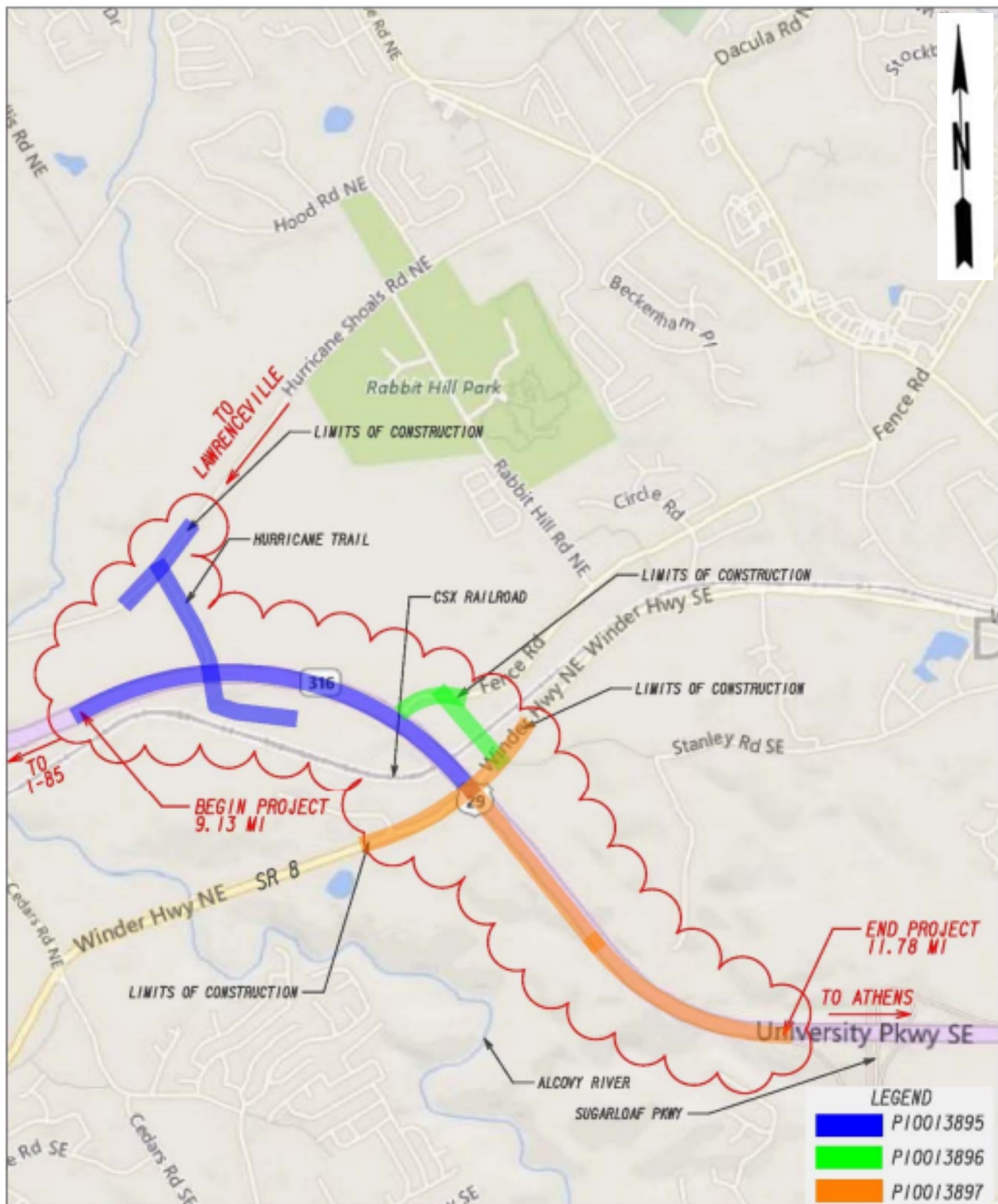
9/8/2021

Date

Attachments:

- Project Location Map
- Notice of Detour Approval
- Preferred Detour Routes including length of detours
- Public Involvement Response Cover Letter
- Local Emergency, School and Public Officials Detour Impact Forms

PROJECT LOCATION MAP
S.R. 316 From East of S.R. 20 to West of Cedars Road
P.I. #0013895, 0013896, 0013897



NOTICE OF DETOUR APPROVAL

PI 0013895, 0013896 and 0013897

Gwinnett County

Notice is hereby given that the Georgia Department of Transportation has approved the use of and the routing of a detour for this project.

The date of detour approval is: **September 8, 2021**

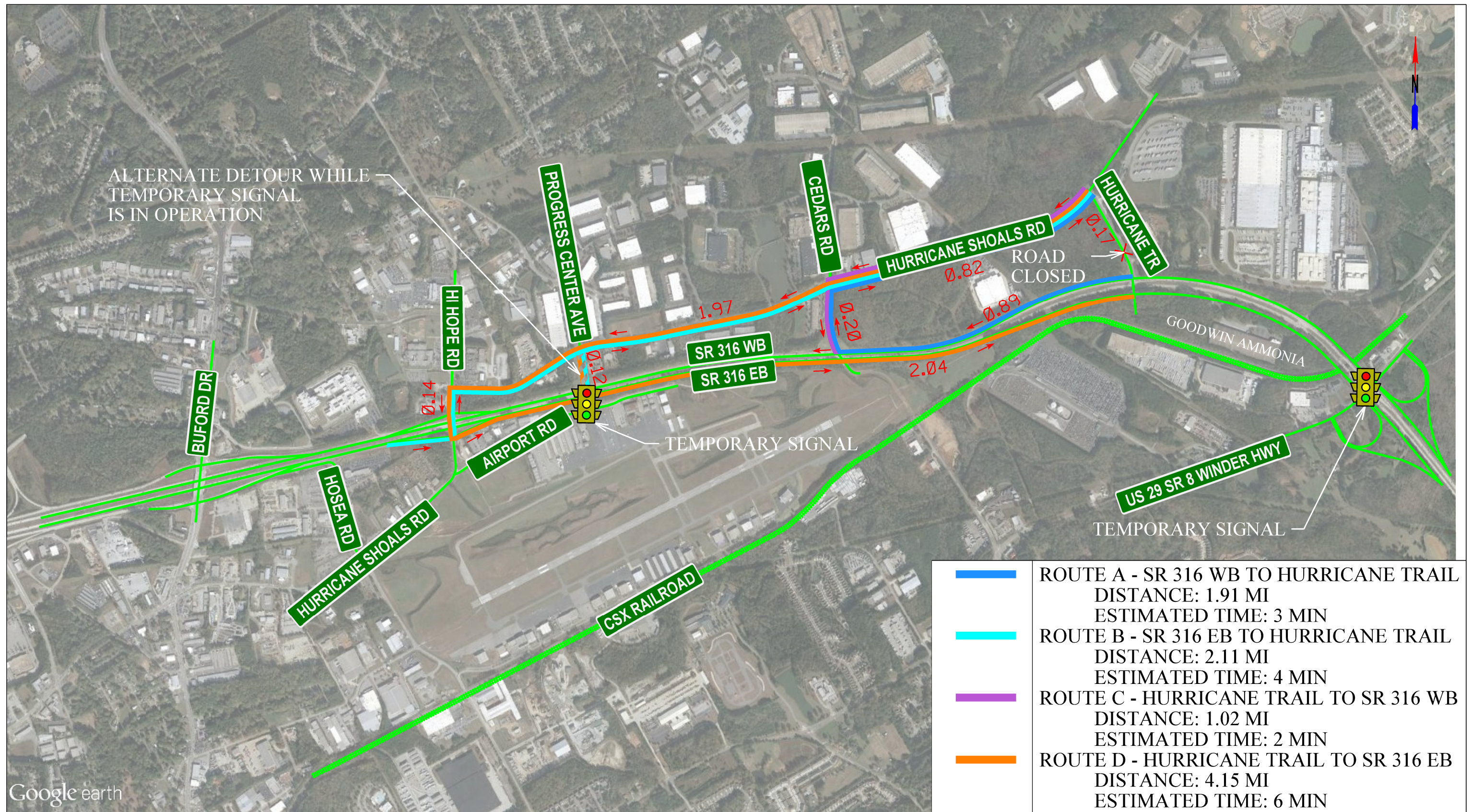
The proposed project begins along SR 316 approximately 600 feet east of the Cedars Road intersection and ends at the ramp to Sugarloaf Parkway southbound. This project is located in Gwinnett County and would convert the traditional signalized intersections on SR 316 at Hurricane Trail and Winder Highway to interchanges. Hurricane Trail and Winder Highway would be raised/elevated over SR 316 with bridges to provide free flow/interstate operations on SR 316. Fence Road will have its access closed to SR 316 and will be relocated to connect with Winder Highway. The project is grouped together as PI Nos. 0013895, 0013896, and 0013897 so that the interchanges are connected together, and construction work completed at one time over the three-mile section. Construction will be to the outside of the existing SR 316 lanes and traffic shifted onto the new SR 316 lanes after completion of the interchanges. No additional lanes are being added to SR 316. The proposed mainline section would consist of two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction with a depressed grassed median, 14-foot wide outside shoulders (12-foot paved and 2-foot grass) and 12-foot wide inside shoulders (10-foot paved and 2-foot grass).

This project would include one detour with multiple routes with a projected duration of nine to twelve months. For this detour, Hurricane Trail at SR 316 will be closed to build the new bridges over the existing and new SR 316 lanes. SR 316 access will be maintained at Goodwin Ammonia during construction with temporary driveways. Local traffic will be detoured to Hurricane Shoals Road during construction. The Goodwin Ammonia Company driveways to SR 316 will also be closed permanently but the driveways will remain open during construction of the interchange.

Detour A – SR 316 WB to Hurricane Trail, Distance 1.9-mile, Estimated travel time: 3 minutes
Detour B – SR 316 EB to Hurricane Trail Distance: 2.1-mile, Estimated travel time: 4 minutes
Detour C – Hurricane Trail to SR 316 WB Distance: 1.0-mile, Estimated travel time: 2 minutes
Detour D – Hurricane Trail to SR 316 EB Distance: 4.2-mile, Estimated travel time: 6 minutes.

Drawings or maps or plats of the proposed project, as approved, are on file and are available for public inspection at the Georgia Department of Transportation. For information or questions regarding the Detour Route, please contact:

Jonathan DiGioia, PE
District 1 Project Manager
JDigioia@dot.ga.gov
600 West Peachtree St NW, 25th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30308
(678) 808-8842



NTS



Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree NW
Atlanta, GA 30308
(404) 631-1990 Main Office

March 15, 2021

Re: Responses to Open House Comments for PI#s: 0013893, 0013894, 0013895, 0013896, and 0013897, Gwinnett County

The Georgia Department of Transportation's (GDOT) five projects propose to increase mobility, reduce congestion, reduce the frequency and severity of crashes, and expand free flow access without traffic signals on SR 316 for 17 miles from I-85.

«GreetingLine»

Thank you for your comments concerning the proposed projects referenced above. We appreciate your participation and all of the input that was received as a result of the *November 24, 2020 – January 8, 2021 Virtual Public Information Open House* (open house). Every electronically submitted comment received and verbal comment provided over the phone will be made part of the projects' official records.

A total of **11,942** people viewed the virtual open house. Of the **166** respondents who formally commented, **110** were in **strong support** of the project, **16** were in **support** of the project, **9** were **opposed**, **11** were **strongly opposed**, **10** were **neutral**, and **10** did not record a response.

Those persons sending in comments within the comment period raised the following questions. The GDOT has prepared this one response letter that addresses all comments received so that everyone can be aware of the questions raised and the responses given. Please find the comments summarized below (in *italics*), divided into their relevant project categories, and followed by our response.

Comments Related to All Projects: 0013893-97

- *"Are there 30% preliminary plans (other than the displays shown at the PIOH) available for public viewing?"*

At this time, the 30% preliminary plans are still in development.

- *"Are there plans for SR 316 to become a toll road?"*

The current plan does not include tolling SR 316.

- *"When will these projects start and finish? Will all the projects start at once or will they be staggered?"*

Project PI# 0013894 SR 316 at Cedars Road currently has construction funding available in Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023). The other four projects PI#s 0013893 and 0013895-97 have construction funds available in Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024). The detours are also staggered. The first

Georgia Department of Transportation
Detour Impact Form for Local Government/County
PI No. 0013895 SR 316 at Hurricane Trail (Detour D), Gwinnett County

Using the attached detour map, please respond to the questions below. Please provide as much information as you feel is necessary. Please respond to all questions – use “N/A” or “Not-known” if no relevant information to question is available. If you need additional information or mapping for this project, please contact us using the information provided in the cover letter.

1. Please quantify the number of impacts anticipated by the off-site detour shown on the attached map.

Daily Number of vehicles: 8,250 Daily Number of Trucks: 330
Number of Residences: Multiple Number of Businesses: Multiple
Detour Length: 3.5 miles

2. Please rate the impact on service if the roads were closed per attached detours? (Please note that any concerns identified here must be explained in #3 below, in order for the Project Designers to address the concerns)

☐ No Concerns ☒ Moderate Concerns ☐ Major Concerns

3. **If concerns were identified** on #2. Please specify what they are below, be as specific as possible (Conditions of detour route, location of students, new development expected, weight restrictions, etc.). *In order for the project to continue in the Preliminary Engineering phase, any concerns regarding impact on service, must be addressed by project staff. For example, if the box for “Major Concerns” is checked, a response of N/A would not be valid.*

Clarity should be provided as to when the temporary signal is to be removed at Progress Center Avenue. The detour description identifies eastbound traffic utilizing Hi Hope Road and not Progress Center Avenue, but the diagram does not appear to agree. Consider temporary closure of Circle Road during construction of this phase to discourage drivers from developing their own detour routes.

4. Are there any future time periods or events that you know of where road closure would be of particular concern? Please note the event and any details you are familiar with.

5. Is there anyone you feel we should contact specifically regarding this project? Please note their name, phone number, and reason we should contact them? (Separate letters and detour forms have been sent to the County EMA Director and the Superintendent of Schools.)

6. Are there any additional comments you have regarding the project? Are the road names referenced the names the locals would use?

Form Completed by (Name): Alex Hofelich, PE, PTOE

(Title): Traffic Engineering Division Director, Gwinnett Department of Transportation
Date: 03/30/2021



By checking this box, we support constructing the project utilizing offsite detours.

Georgia Department of Transportation
Detour Impact Form for Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
PI No. 0013895 SR 316 at Hurricane Trail (Detour D), Gwinnett County

1. Please rate the impact to Emergency Response services if the roads were closed per attached detour map.

☐ No Impact

☒ Low Impact

☐ Moderate Impact

☐ High Impact

2. If concerns were identified on # 1, please specify what they are, and be as specific as possible (examples: condition of detour routes, located in a high call volume area, closure could affect response to schools, weight restrictions, expected new development in the area, coordination with partner agency required to facilitate service). *In order for the project to continue in the Preliminary Engineering phase, any concerns regarding impact on service, must be addressed by project staff. For example, if the box for "High Impact" is checked, a response of N/A would not be valid.*

Impact to Fire and Emergency Services will be minimal. However, there should be expected delays in responses when normal routes of travel are not accessible. Personnel responding to the Publix Atlanta Warehouse, and the industrial area in general, for an incident would need to plan for closure and respond using alternate routes.

3. Are there any future time periods or events that you know of where road closure would be of particular concern? Please note the event and any details you are familiar with.

Fire and Emergency Services is not aware of any future closure that would impact our service beyond what is mentioned above.

4. Is there anyone you feel we should contact specifically regarding this project? Please note their name, contact information, and reason we should contact them?

NA

5. Are there any additional comments you have for this project? Are the road names referenced the names the locals would use?

No additional comments.

Form Completed by (Name): JeKerry Weaver

(Title): Deputy Chief of Operations

Date: January 28, 2021



By checking this box, we support constructing the project utilizing offsite detours.

**Georgia Department of Transportation
Detour Impact Form for School Board
PI No. 0013895 SR 316 at Hurricane Trail (Detour D), Gwinnett County**

Using the attached detour map, please respond to the questions below. Please provide as much information as you feel is necessary. Please respond to all questions – use “N/A” or “Not-known” if no relevant information to question is available. If you need additional information or mapping for this project, please contact us.

1. How many School Buses utilize the detour route per day?

Number of Buses 0_____ Number of Trips 0_____

2. Please rate the impact on service if the roads were closed per attached detours?

☒ No Concerns ☐ Moderate Concerns ☐ Major Concerns

3. If concerns were identified on # 1, please specify what they are, and be as specific as possible (Conditions of detour route, location of students, new development expected, weight restrictions, etc.). *In order for the project to continue in the Preliminary Engineering phase, any concerns regarding impact on service, must be addressed by project staff. For example, if the box for “Major Concerns” is checked, a response of N/A would not be valid.*

NA_____

4. Are there any future time periods or events that you know of where road closure would be of particular concern? Please note the event and any details you are familiar with.

No_____

5. Is there anyone you feel we should contact specifically regarding this project? Please note their name, phone number, and reason we should contact them?

No_____

6. Are there any additional comments you have regarding the project? Are the road names referenced the names the locals would use?

Please keep us informed of actual start and finish dates.

Form Completed by (Name): Donald W. Moore

(Title): Executive Director of Transportation, Gwinnett County Public Schools

Date: 2/1/2021



By checking this box, we support constructing the project utilizing offsite detours.